# Sunfield Township

Annual Financial Report March 31, 2005 Michigan Dept. of Treasury, Local Audit & Finance Division 496 (3-95), Formerly L-3147

## **AUDITING PROCEDURES REPORT**

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Local Government Type  City  Township	Village 🗌 Other	Local Govern	ment Name Sunfield Township	County Ealon
Audit Date 3/31/2005	Opinion Date 10/21	/2005	Date Accountant Report Submitted to State:	10/31/2005

We have audited the financial statements of this local unit of government and rendered an opinion on financial statements prepared in accordance with the Statements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the Uniform Reporting Format for Financial Statements for Counties and Local Units of Government in Michigan by the Michigan

1197 Wild Cherry Drive	Villiameton	State Na	ZIP	40005							
Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) Richard L. Baldermann, CPA  Street Address											
				X							
Single Audit Reports (ASLGU).	uuit5).			X							
Reports on individual federal financial assistance programs (program a	X										
The letter of comments and recommendations.		Forward	ed	Not Required							
We have enclosed the following:											
yes χ no 9. The local unit has not adopted an investment pol	licy as required by P.,	A. 196 of 1	<del>9</del> 97 (I	MCL 129.95).							
yes X no 8. The local unit uses credit cards and has not add 1995 (MCL 129.241).	opted an applicable p	olicy as re	quired	I by P.A. 266 o							
yes no 7. The local unit has violated the Constitutional received pension benefits (normal costs) in the cuthe overfunding credits are more than the norm during the year).	III ANI VASE IT HOS SISS	41									
— <del>L</del>	no 6. The local unit has been delinquent in distributing tax revenues that were collected for enoting										
yes no 5. The local unit holds deposits/investments which do not comply with statutory requirements. (P.A. 6 of 1943, as amended [MCL 129.91], or P.A. 55 of 1982, as amended [MCL 38.1132]).											
yes no 4. The local unit has violated the conditions of either an order issued under the Municipal Finance A or its requirements, or an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act.											
yes no 3. There are instances of non-compliance with the Uniform Accounting and Budgeting Act (P.A. 2											
yes no 2. There are accumulated deficits in one or more of this unit's unreserved fund bala earnings (P.A. 275 of 1980).											
yes no 1. Certain component units/funds/agencies of the	local unit are exclude	ed from the	finan	cial statemen							
You must check the applicable box for each item below.											
We further affirm the following. "Yes" responses have been disclosed the report of comments and recommendations	1 in the financial state	ments, inc	luding	the notes, or							
2. We are certified public accountants registered to practice in Mich											
1. We have complied with the Bulletin for the Audits of Local Units of		<i>higan</i> as re	vised								
We affirm that:											
Management of the design of th			-	,							

We have enclosed the following:	Enclosed	_ To Be	Not
The letter of comments and recommendations.	X	Forwarded	Required
Reports on individual federal financial assistance programs (program audits).			V
Single Audit Reports (ASLGU).			X

Certified Public Accountant (Firm Name) Richard L. Baldermann, CPA											
Street Address 1197 Wild Cherry Drive	City Williamston	State MI	ZIP <b>48895</b>								
Accountant Signature  Suhard Beldemann			40090								



# SUPERVISOR Brenda Gibbs

## **CLERK**

Sheryl Smith

## TREASURER

Vikki Spitzley

## **TRUSTEES**

Danny Plowman Tim Rumfield

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# Richard L. Baldermann

## Certified Public Accountant

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## e-mail: rlbaldermann@msn.com

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

October 21, 2005

Sunfield Township Board PO Box 68 Sunfield, MI 48890

**Dear Board Members:** 

I have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of Sunfield Township as of March 31, 2005 and for the year then ended, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Sunfield Township's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sunfield Township as of March 31, 2005 and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As described in Note 1, the Township has implemented a new financial reporting model, as required by the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements — and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. The accompanying financial statements do not present a management's discussion and analysis, which would be an analysis of the financial performance for the year. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined that this analysis is necessary to supplement, although not required to be a part of, the basic financial statements.

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the Township's basic financial statements. The required supplemental information, budgetary comparison schedules, have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, are fairly presented, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Richard L. Baldermann, CPA

Kuhard Kaldermann

## Sunfield Township Balance Sheet - Statement of Net Assets March 31, 2005

Assets		lance Sheet Modified Accrual		Adjustments (Note 2)	Statement of Net Assets - Full Accrual		
Cash (Note 4)	_				<del></del>		
Taxes Receivable-Delinquent	\$	130,512			\$	130,512	
Assessments Receivable-Delinquent		3,425				3,425	
Due From Tax Collection Fund		5,577				5,577	
Due From State		516				516	
Capital assets (Note 5)		16,748				16,748	
Total assets		450 550	_\$_	180,902		180,902	
333.4333.6	-	156,778		180,902		337,680	
Liabilities							
Accounts payable	•	0.700					
Deferred Compensation Payable	\$	6,723				6,723	
Due to Tax Collection Fund		2,404				2,404	
Due to State		29 386				29	
Due to Federal Government		386 467				386	
Road Agreement Payable		407		75.000		467	
Total liabilities		10,010		75,909		75,909	
		10,010				85,919	
Fund Balances - Unreserved		146,768		(146,768)			
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$	156,778					
Net Assets							
Invested in capital assets				400.000			
Unrestricted				180,902		180,902	
				70,859		70,859	
Total net assets			\$	251,761	\$ 25	51,761.11	

The Notes to Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

Sunfield Township Government Wide Statement of Activities For the Year Ended March 31, 2005

evenue and et Assets	ernment	Total	\$ (62,642)	(77,570)	(31,641)	(10,885)	(5,692)	(191,200)	(191,200)		60,610	110,798	2,504	966	78,937	253,845	62,645	189,251	\$ 251,761
Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets	Primary Government	Governmental Activíties	\$ (62,642)	(77,570)	(31,641)	(10,863)	(5,692)	(191,200)	(191,200)	6	00,010	110,798	2,504	966	78,937	253,845	62,645	189,251	\$ 251,761
Program Revenues	Operating	Grants and Contributions	\$ 3,363	10.069	007'01			13,631	\$ 13,631							sfers			
Program	;	Charges for Services	\$ 12,424	1321	<u>.</u>			13,745	\$ 13,745			ont Faminas	of Land			opecial Items and Tran			
		Expenses	\$ 78,429	43,230	10,885	2,770	5,692		General Revenues	Property Taxes	State Grants	Unrestricted Investment Farrings	Licenses and Dermits	Other Revenue	Total General Document	Change in Not Appet	Net Accete - Beginning	Net AssetsBeginning	B
		Functions/Programs Primary Government	General Government Public Safety	Public Works	Health and Welfare	Other Functions Interest on I one Term Dobe	Total Governmental Activities	Total Primary Government											

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Sunfield Township

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
General Fund

## For the Year Ended March 31, 2005

Revenue	
Taxes	\$ 60,610
Licenses and Permits	990
State Grants	996 114,160
Local Grants	10,268
Interest and Rentals	2,504
Charges for Services	7,071
Charges for Services-Sales	7,07 6,674
Other Revenue	78,937
Total Revenue	
Expenditures	281,221
General Government	
Township Board	5 700
Supervisor	5,799
Assessor	8,109
Clerk	14,134
Treasurer	10,268
Board of Review	15,282
Elections	1,352
Cemetery	1,987
Public Safety	16,146
Fire Department Appropriation	77 570
Public Works	77,570
Drains-Public Benefit	26 774
Roads and Highways	26,774
Refuse Collection	7,280
Health and Welfare	6,301
Other Functions	10,885
Capital Outlay	2,770
Debt Service	2,401
Total Expenditures	40,372
xcess (deficiency) of revenue	247,429
over expenditures	22 700
und Balance-April 1, 2004	33,792
und Balance-March 31, 2005	112,977 \$ 146,768

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Sunfield Township	Exhibit 4
Statement of Net Assets	
Fiduciary Fund	
March 31, 2005	
Tax Collection Fund	
Assets	
Cash (Note 4)	100,174
Due From General Fund	29
Total assets	100,203
Liabilities	
Due to General Fund-Interest	415
Due to General Fund-Dog Licenses	101
The state of the same of	101

**Sunfield Township** 

**Undistributed Tax Collections** 

Total liabilities

The Notes to Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

99,687

100,203

Exhibit 5

Sunfield Township Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities Fiduciary Fund March 31, 2005

Tax Collection Fund	Balance ril 1, 2004	Additions	Deductions	Balance March 31, 2005		
Assets Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 3) Due From General Fund-Bank Fees	\$ 4,507	\$ 1,504,675 29	\$ 1,409,007	\$	100,17 <b>4</b> 29	
Total assets	\$ 4,507	\$ 1,504,704	\$ 1,409,007	\$	100,203	
Liabilities  Due to General Fund-Interest  Due to General Fund-Dog Licenses  Undistributed Tax Collections  Due to Taxpayers	3,640 866	\$ 410 1,010 1,501,257	\$ 3,635 909 1,401,569 866	\$	415 101 99,687	
Total liabilities	\$ 4,507	\$ 1,502,677	\$ 1,406,980	\$	100,203	

The Notes to Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

## NOTE 1-SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of Sunfield Township conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by the Township:

## A. Accounting and Reporting Change

In June 1999, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements- and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for State and Local Governments. Sunfield Township has applied the provisions of this statement in the accompanying financial statements (including the notes to the financial statements).

#### **B.** Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board for determining the various governmental organizations to be included in the reporting entity.

Sunfield Township is located in Eaton County and covers an area of 36 square miles. The Township provides services to its residents in many areas including fire protection, ambulance services, community enrichment and development, and human services. The Township is a general law township governed by a five-member board elected by the citizens of the Township. The Township Board consists of the supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and two trustees. The accompanying financial statements present the government and its component units, entities for which the Township is considered to be financially accountable. Based on the criteria established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), the Township has no component units.

#### **Joint Venture**

Fire District—Sunfield Township, in conjunction with Danby Township, Sebewa Township, and Sunfield Village, has entered into an agreement that created the Sunfield, Sebewa and Danby Fire Department. The Fire Department's board is composed of five members, of which Sunfield Township appoints one. The Township's financial responsibility is to contribute equal millage levy on real property taxable value. For the year ended March 31, 2005, the Township's contribution to the Fire Department was \$77,570

## **Related Organizations**

District Library—Sunfield Township in conjunction with the Village of Sunfield entered into an agreement to create the Sunfield District Library. The District Library is a legally separate organization established to provide library services to residents of the Township and Village.

The Sunfield District Library is located within the Village of Sunfield. The Library is operated by an eight-member Board, two appointed by the Village and five appointed by the Township, and provides library services to residents of Sunfield Township and Sunfield Village. The Township's accountability does not extend beyond this representation and making these appointments. Under a separate agreement with the State of Michigan, the Library provides services to residents of Sebewa Township. The Board is empowered to propose and levy upon approval of the electors a tax for support of the District Library. It may also borrow money and issue bonds pursuant to the District Library Financing Act 265 of 1988 (MCL 397.281 et seq.). The District Library indemnifies and holds harmless the participating municipalities from all claims and liabilities. The Township does levy a tax for the District Library; however, the Township does not hold title to any of the District Library's assets, nor does it have rights to any surpluses or responsibility to finance any deficits of the District Library.

## NOTE 1--SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

## C. Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of changes in net assets) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities that rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment; and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenue.

## D. Fund Financial Statements

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

## E. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized as soon as it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Township considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Property taxes and state-shared revenue are considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenue of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be available only when cash is received by the Township. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Property Taxes—The Township property tax is levied and collectible on December 1 on the taxable valuation of property located in the Township as of the preceding December 31. Taxes are returned delinquent to the County Treasurer on March 1. It is the Township's policy to recognize revenues in the current year when they are made available for the financing of Township operations.

The 2004 State Equalized Value of Sunfield Township amounted to \$78,484,200, on which ad valorem taxes of 1 mill was levied for Township operating purposes and 2 mills on real property was levied for fire department operations. The 2004 current tax levied included \$46,800 for Township operations and \$77,570 for fire department operations. The delinquent real taxes totaling \$3,425 and \$5,577 for the Township and fire department, respectively, are recorded as Taxes Receivable-Delinquent and Assessments Receivable-Delinquent.

The Township reports the following major governmental fund:

The General Fund is the Township's only operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Revenues are primarily derived from property taxes, State and Federal aid, and charges for services to provide for the administration and operation of general Township departments.

## NOTE 1--SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Private-sector standards of accounting issued prior to December 1, 1989, are generally followed in both the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with the standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The Township has elected not to follow private-sector standards issued after November 30, 1989 for its business type activities.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

## F. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (continued)

Amounts reported as program revenue include: (1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services or privileges provided; (2) operating grants and contributions; and (3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenue rather than as program revenue. Likewise, general revenue includes all taxes.

## G. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

Bank Deposits--Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired.

Receivables and Payables--In general, outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds." Activity between funds that is representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is referred to as "advances to/from other funds." All property tax receivables are shown as net of allowance for uncollectible amounts. Property taxes are levied on each December 1 on the taxable valuation of property as of the preceding December 31. Taxes are considered delinquent on March 1 of the following year, at which time penalties and interest are assessed by the County.

Capital Assets--Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items) are reported in the applicable governmental column in the government-wide financial statements. Sunfield Township does not have a formal capital asset policy. Capital assets are defined as assets with an initial cost of more than an established amount and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Retroactive reporting of infrastructure assets is not required for units of government the size of the Township.

Fund Equity--In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

#### H. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## NOTE 2--RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different than those in the governmental fund balance sheet because:

Fund Balance Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and	\$146,768
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and are not	180,902
reported in the funds.  Net Assets of Governmental Activities	_ (75,909) \$251,761

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different than those in the fund statement of revenue and expenditures because:

Net Change in Fund Balance Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; in the statement of activities, these costs are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded	\$33,792
Repayments of bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but	(5,826)
not in the statement of activities (where it reduces long-term debt).  Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities	_34,680 \$62,645

## NOTE 3-STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

## **Budget Information**

The annual budget is prepared by the Township's management and adopted by the Board and subsequent amendments to the budget are approved by the Board. The annual operating budget has been prepared on a basis of accounting consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and at the department/activity level. Unexpended appropriations lapse at year-end.

## Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations in Budgeted Funds

The Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, PA 2 of 1968, as amended, (MCL 141.421 et seq.), provides that a local governmental unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated. The Township's actual expenditures and budgeted expenditures have been shown on a department/activity basis. During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005, the Township incurred expenditures that were in excess of the amounts appropriated, as follows:

Drains-Public Benefit Refuse Collection Insurance Expense Fire Department Appropriation	25,000 5,000 2,500	26,774 6,301 2,770 77.570	(1,774) (1,301) (270) (77,570)
, pp. sp. addit		11,510	(//,5/0)

#### NOTE 4-CASH

Deposits are carried at cost. Deposits of the Township are made in banks in the name of the Sunfield Township Treasurer. Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 124.91, authorizes the township treasurer to deposit and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations; bonds, securities, and direct obligations of the United States, or any agency or instrumentality of the United States in which the principal and interest is fully guaranteed by the United States, including securities issued or guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association; United States government or Federal agency obligation repurchase agreements; bankers' acceptance of United States banks; mutual funds composed of investment vehicles which are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan; and commercial paper rated by two standard rating agencies within the three highest classifications, which matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase, and which involves no more than 50 percent of any one fund. The Township's deposits are in accordance with statutory authority.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 3, risk disclosures for the Township's cash deposits, are as follows:

	Bank	Carrying
<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Balance</u>	Amount
Insured (FDIC)	\$126,008	\$126,008
Uninsured	_106,495	104.678
Total Deposits	\$232,503	\$230,686

#### **NOTE 5.-CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity of the primary government for the current year was as follows:

Governmental Activities Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated Land Subtotal	Beginning Balance \$91,536 91,536	Additions \$_0 0	Deductions \$_0 0	Ending Balance \$91,536 91,536
Capital Assets Being Depreciated Buildings Parking and Driveways Equipment Subtotal	60,355 1,500 <u>29,673</u> 91,528	19,326 <u>860</u> 20,186		60,355 20,826 _30,533 111,714
Less Accumulated Depreciation for Buildings Parking and Driveways Equipment Subtotal	7,260 62 14,058 21,380	2,850 902 4,476 8,227		10,110 964 <u>18,534</u> 29,608
Net Capital Assets Being Depreciated	<u>\$77,408</u>	\$20,186	<u>\$8,227</u>	\$89,366
Governmental Activities Total Capital Assets–Net of Depreciation	<u>\$168,944</u>	<u>\$20,186</u>	\$8.227	<u>\$180,902</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to programs of the Governmental Activities as follows:

Gov	ernm	entai	<b>Activities</b>	
-----	------	-------	-------------------	--

General Government	\$5,352
Public Works	2,875

#### NOTE 6—LONG TERM DEBT

The Township entered into a contractual agreement with the Eaton County Road Commission for construction of highway improvements within the Township. The Township agreed to reimburse the County Road Commission for the costs of the project including payment of debt service on County bonds issued for the project.

The contractual obligation activity can be summarized as follows:

County Road	Interest Rate	Principal Matures	Beginning Balance	Additions (Reductions)	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Agreement	6%	June 1	\$110,589	\$(34,680)	\$75,909	\$39,090

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for the above obligations are as follows:

Year End		
March 31	Principal	Interest
2006	\$36,819	\$3,553
2007	\$39,090	\$1,282
Total	\$75,909	\$4,835

## NOTE 7-DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN

The Township provides pension benefits to its employees who are employed for more than 20 hours per week on a regular basis, the Assessor, and all Township Board members through a defined contribution plan. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan plus investment earnings. Employees are eligible to participate from the date of employment. As established by Public Act 77 of 1989, as amended, the Township contributes 6.2 percent of the premium arising under the annuity. Each participating employee is responsible for the remainder of the premium through payroll deduction. Each employee covered under the annuity is fully vested after one month of the employee's eligibility in the plan.

The Township's total payroll during the current year was \$46,012. The current year contribution was calculated based on covered payroll of \$40,775, resulting in an employer contribution of \$2,509.

## NOTE 8--RISK MANAGEMENT

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions, and employee injuries (workers' compensation). The Township has purchased commercial insurance for liability claims through Michigan Townships Participating Plan. Settled claims relating to the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

The Michigan Townships Participating Plan operates as an insurance purchasing pool for local units of government in Michigan. The Plan purchases commercial insurance on behalf of its members at a lower cost than would be available on an individual basis.

eal Ended March 31, 2005	Original Budget	Amended Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Budgetary Fund Balance, April 1, 2004	58,535	94,137	112,976	18,839
Recources (Inflows)			, -	10,000
Taxes Taxes				
Delinquent Taxes	44,900	44,900	43,376	(1,524
Administration Fee			3,425	3,425
Licenses and Permits	12,800	12,800	13,809	1,009
Cable Franchise Fee				
Dog Licenses	985	985	895	(90
State Grants			101	101
METRO Fee	2.075			
Summer Tax Collection	2,275	2,555	3,338	783
State Revenue Sharing	3,340	3,340	3,363	23
Local Grants	100,000	100,000	107,460	7,460
Recycling Grant-Eaton County				
Interest and Rentals			10,268	10,268
Interest	1,400	4 400		
Rent	175	1,400	2,329	929
Charges for Serveces	175	175	175	-
Grave Openings	6,000			
Recycling Fees	0,000	6,000	5,750	(250)
Charges for Services-Sales			1,321	1,321
Sale of Cemetery Lots	3,000	2 222		
Sale of Scrap	3,000	3,000	6,580	3,580
Other Revenue			94	94
Donations				
Special Assessments			800	800
Delinquent Special Assessments			71,993	71,993
Refunds			5,577	5,577
Miscellaneous Clearing	10,000	16.074	292	292
Amounts Available for Appropriation	184,875	16,074	275	(15,799)
Charges to Appropriations (Outflows)		285,366	394,197	108,831
General Government				
Township Board	18,360	18,360		
Supervisor	10,000	10,000	5,799	12,561
Assessor	16,300	16,300	8,109	1,891
Clerk	11,495	11,495	14,134	2,166
Treasurer	16,750	16,750	10,268	1,227
Board of Review	1,700	1,700	15,282	1,468
Elections	2,300	2,300	1,352	348
Cemetery	17,695	17,695	1,987	313
Public Safety	•	77,000	16,146	1,549
Fire Department Appropriation Public Works			77,570	(77,570)
Drains-Public Benefit	25,000	25,000	20 774	
Roads and Highways	7,000	7,280	26,774	(1,774)
Refuse Collection	1,000	5,000	7,280	-
Health and Welfare	10,885	10,885	6,301	(1,301)
Other Functions	•	10,000	10,885	-
Insurance Expense	2,500	2,500	0.770	
Contingency	4,600	4,174	2,770	(270)
Capital Outlay	,	1,11.7		4,174
Capital Improvements		2,500	0.404	
Debt Service		2,000	2,401	99
Debt - Principal	34,700	34,700	24 600	
Debt - Interest	5,700	5,700	34,680	20
tal Charges to Appropriations	167,625	173,979	5,692	8
dgetary Fund BalanceMarch 31	17,250	111,387	247,429	(73,450)

# Richard L. Baldermann Certified Public Accountant

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## e-mail: rlbaldermann@msn.com

October 21, 2005

Sunfield Township Board PO Box 68 Sunfield, MI 48890

Dear Board Members:

I was engaged to audit the financial statements of Sunfield Township for the year ended March 31, 2005, and have issued my report thereon dated July 19, 2005.

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements of Sunfield Township for the year ended March 31, 2005, I considered the Township's internal control structure to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

The management of Sunfield Township is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and principles. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

I noted certain matters involving the internal control structure and its operation that I consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to my attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the township's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. These conditions are more fully explained in the attached report of comments and recommendations.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the specific internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that error or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. My consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and, as defined above.

This report is intended for the information of management and other regulatory agencies. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

Richard L. Baldermann, CPA

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#### OTHER REPORTABLE CONDITIONS

Although the following are not considered material weaknesses in the internal control structure, my audit disclosed certain other reportable conditions that I wish to point out for consideration by the management of Sunfield Township

## **Expenditure Documentation**

In my examination of expenditures I found several instances of missing or inadequate documentation as follows:

- Documentation consists of a phone message with a note that says <u>10 hrs \$25.30 postage photocopies?</u>;
- A letter request for postage from the Treasurer, but there is no bill from the post office;
- A WalMart receipt is used for documentation, but it is not clear what items are for the Township. The total receipt is \$75.90 of which \$28.25 is reimbursed by the Township;
- Several payments to VISA had no bills attached or one or more bills missing;
- Wills IGA Spring Cleanup expenses in December? Only 2 of 3 bills are copied for the invoice.

Justification for payment of township funds requires that all payments be supported by original documentation. Copies of bills and payment of a monthly invoice is not adequate. I recommend that all payments be supported by original and complete documentation.

#### Payment of sales tax

There were several purchases that the Township paid sales tax.

The General Sales Tax Act (MCL 205.54h) states in part:

Sales to the United States. . . and this state or its departments and institutions or any of its political subdivisions are exempt from the tax under this act.

I recommend that more care be taken to not use Township funds to pay a cost that is not necessary.

#### **Payroll Documentation**

Payroll documentation is normally any piece of paper with notations on it stating hours worked. There apparently is no formal time sheet for the use of employees.

I recommend that the Township develop a formal time sheet for use by employees that includes the following information:

- Employee Name;
- Social Security Number;
- Hours worked (daily);
- Work performed; and
- Total hours worked.

#### Capital Asset Records

Sunfield Township's capital assets recorded in the financial statements have not been updated as required by generally accepted accounting principles since 2003.

Generally accepted accounting standards require that a complete and up-to-date listing of the township's assets be maintained and included in the financial records of the township.

I recommend that the Township take appropriate action to assure that detailed records of the Township's capital assets are prepared annually, kept on file, and the information is recorded in the financial records of the Township.

#### Capital Asset Policy

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 34 requires local governments to capitalize and depreciate is capital assets. The Township does not have a capital asset policy. This policy is necessary to establish the capitalization threshold, method of depreciation, and estimated useful life of the Township's assets.

I recommend that the Township Board adopt a Capital Asset Policy.

#### Treasurer's Tax Collection Cash Ledgers

The Treasurer's cash ledgers are not maintained in sufficient detail to determine if taxes collected for the various taxing units are distributed in the same amount.

- Accounting records are not maintained in sufficient detail to distinguish between:
  - Real and personal property taxes
  - Delinquent personal property taxes
  - o Penalties on summer taxes
  - o Interest on summer taxes

Following are the accounts (categories) used to record tax collections and distributions:

Revenue and Expenses S04 Tax Collection

W04 Tax Collection

Overpayment

I recommend that the Treasurer establish the following accounts to properly account for the tax collection and distribution:

#### Due to:

County

SET

Eaton Intermediate

**Dist Library** 

Ionia Intermediate

Lakewood School

Maple Valley School

Sunfield Twp-Sunfield-Sebewa Danby Fire

Sunfield Twp--Tax

Sunfield Twp-- Admin Fee

Sunfield Twp—Interest

Overpayments

**Undistributed Personal Taxes** 

Those accounts must be used for collections and distributions.

## NONCOMPLIANCE WITH STATE STATUTES

My examination revealed the following instances of noncompliance with State Statutes.

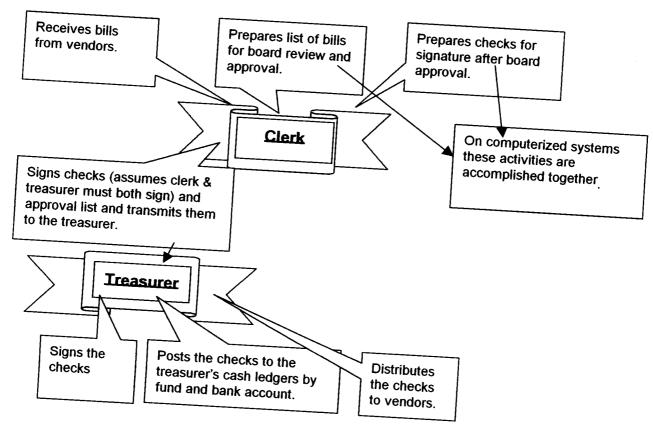
## Approval to Pay Claims

I found that the Township Board approves the previous months bill listing at each Board meeting. MCL 41.75 states in

. . . the township board shall approve claims against the township and authorize payment of allowed claims. Accounts approved by the township board shall be filed and preserved by the township clerk. The payments authorized shall be paid by the treasurer, on the order of the township board, signed by the township clerk.

The authority for the Treasurer to issue a check is the order of the township board signed by the township clerk. Current authorized procedure is the two-signature check. The Clerk's signature (or Deputy Clerk) satisfies the requirement of an order signed by the Clerk and the Treasurer's signature (or Deputy Treasurer) issues the check.

I recommend that the Township Board comply with statutory requirements. The following flow chart demonstrates the **Disbursements** 



#### Special Assessment Tax Levy

Sunfield Township levies a special assessment millage to provide funding for the Sunfield, Sebewa and Danby Fire Department pursuant to the intergovernmental agreement. That levy is distributed directly to the fire department.

Because the Township levies the special assessment, the proceeds must be distributed to the Township general fund. The Township Board should provide an appropriation in the general fund budget in an amount equal to the special assessment levy to meet their obligation under the agreement.

#### **Budget format**

The Township's budget is categorized in a manner not entirely consistent with financial reporting format or with the Department of Treasury Uniform Chart of Accounts. The Uniform Budget and Accounting Act requires local units to prepare the budget *consistent with the uniform chart of accounts prescribed by the state treasurer*.[MCL 141.436(4)]. Only minor reorganization is necessary to be in full compliance.

I recommend that the budget be prepared consistent with the uniform chart of accounts prescribed by the State Treasurer.

## Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations in Budgeted Funds

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005, the Township incurred expenditures that were in excess of the amounts appropriated, as follows:

Drains-Public Benefit Refuse Collection	25,000 5.000	26,77 <b>4</b> 6.301	(1,774)
Insurance Expense	2,500	2,770	(1,301) (270)
Fire Department Appropriation		77,570	(77,570)

The Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, PA 2 of 1968, as amended, (MCL 141.421 et seq.), provides that a local governmental unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated.